

There have been no long articles or replies to this piece by John Nelson. John has had a couple of notes of approval from members but nothing of substance. There have been a number of sentences included in letters from members, to the Ed, which touched on the subject in passing. All agreed with John's hypothesis.

One member wrote, *You can congratulate John Nelson on his "so true " article on the B. T. forgeries. I knew Copt Jackson many years ago & at that time I had about 20 of these items which he checked for me. Needless to say less than half were pronounced genuine! Didn't cost me much as I allowed him to pick any single item he wanted for himself. (!!)*

On this same subject **DAVE HILL** had spotted these three lots in Harmer's Postal History Auction of 9/10/97.

1. 8 perfins Crown over BT to 1/- Jubilee stamps believed genuine but sold as-is; used. EST £100
2. A reference collection of 37 forgeries 1881 to E7 all original or part original gum. EST £150
3. OHMS Board of Trade wrapper with 2½d Jubilee perfin (25/6/88) EST £220.

Obviously loose B.T. perfins worry Harmer's since the publication of GB Official Perfins by Edwards and Lucas in 1984: and the comments by various of our members in recent years. There are at least 16 different forgeries mentioned in GB Official Perfins. Harmer's perhaps feel on firmer ground with the perfin on cover.

I [Dave] tend to agree with John. The Officials Catalogue is in sore need of updating. Only a few of our publications are of interest to the general philatelist: what impression do they get of perfins as a whole from the Officials Catalogue? Perfins were widely forged?

In Bulletin 224/6 Reg Powell mentioned he had a fake ARMY OFFICIAL OVERPRINT but it was the fact that it was on a perfin used by Hart & Levy that proved it was a forged overprint!